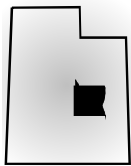


County Trends



Emery

June 2003

A Local Economic Perspective

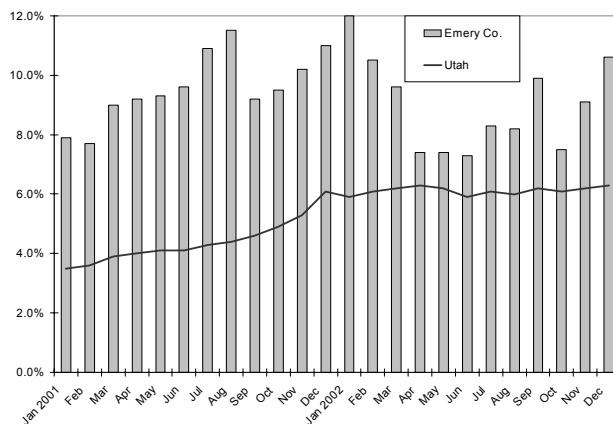
Slight Job Losses in the Last Half of 2002

The economic malaise just won't let go of Emery County. While nonfarm jobs fell in the third and fourth quarters of 2002, the rate of decline has slowed considerably. Unemployment rates have been uneven due to continual fluctuations in the labor force. The most current unemployment rate, April 2003, was 9.7 percent, slightly higher than the 9.5 percent reported in April 2002.

Jobs almost break even

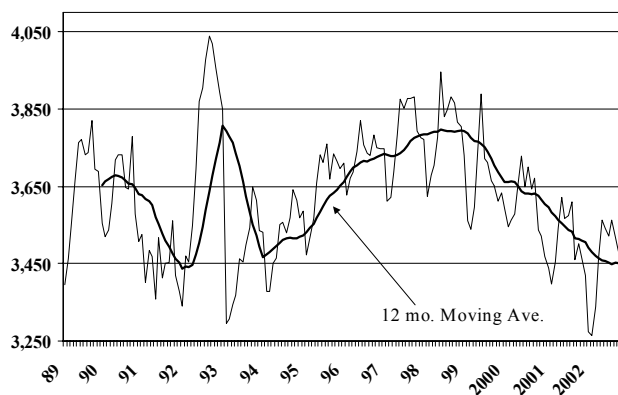
Year-over nonfarm employment in Emery County was down a scant 0.4 percent in the third quarter and 0.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2002. Employment in the goods-production sectors regained some footing in the latter half of 2002. Coal mining added around 25, while utilities were unchanged. That is good news, since these two industries account for one-third of total employment. One industry showing solid growth was construction, thanks to new buildings and special trades workers. Construction added just under 50 jobs. Manufacturing, a very small industry in Emery County, reported only a slight decline in employment.

Seasonally Adjusted Emery County Unemployment Rates



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

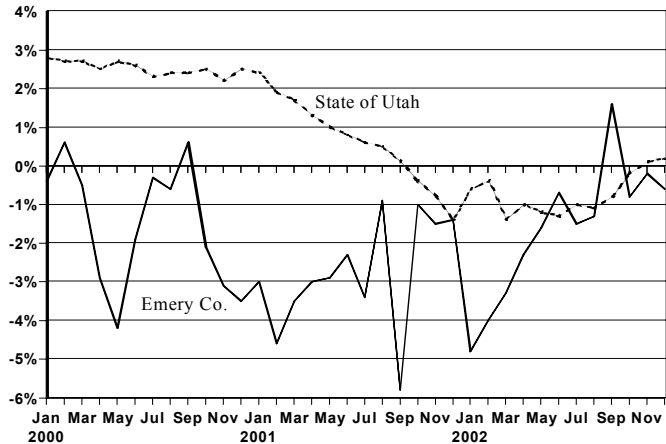
Monthly Nonfarm Employment in Emery County, 1989-2002



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.



Year-Over Change in Emery County Employment



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

To the Point

Emery County continued to shed jobs during the last half of 2002, though they are virtually at the break even point. On the positive side was some growth in mining and construction, while utilities were steady. On the negative were substantial losses in retail trade and transportation. Jobs will remain scarce in the face of recession and little foreseeable growth in energy production.

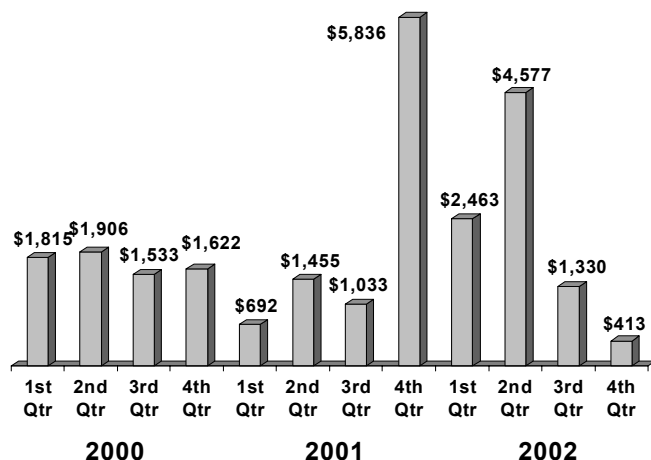
Year-over jobs declined in the service-producing industries during the last half of 2002. Trade lost around 50 jobs as positions were cut for food stores and gas service stations. Trucking also lost jobs. Information jobs fell for data processing services too. Only financial and repair services eked out gains. Accommodations showed some growth, however food services experienced job declines. Government employment declined. Local public education and administration cut jobs as enrollments decline and budgets tighten. Federal government positions were added for land management.

Construction Slows

Year-over construction activity, as measured by permit authorizations, improved during the third quarter, but tailed off dramatically in the fourth quarter of 2002. As a result, total valuation for the last half of 2002 declined 75 percent. Total new units slipped slightly in

Emery County Total Construction Permit Valuation

3



(Thousands of dollars)

Source: Utah Bureau of Economic & Business Research.



the second half of 2002 and the valuations of residential building was down 52 percent. Nonresidential activity slowed as well with the overall value of non-residential construction dropping 88 percent. Renovation valuation improved during the last six months of 2002.

Sales Are Steady

Year-over gross taxable retail sales in Emery County fell 6.0 percent in the third quarter, but rebounded and grew by 8.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2002. Mining sales declined. Manufacturing sales were strong and communication sales stayed steady. Retail trade sales expanded at building and garden stores. Services sales for repair services and lodging also showed improvement.

Outlook for 2003

Emery County's economic outlook remains tied to energy demand and development. Under current conditions look for this industry to continue to struggle. Construction, telecommunications, and recreation will continue some job growth.

Austin Sargent, Regional Economist
asargent@utah.gov, 801-526-9464

Quick Facts

April 2003

Unemployment Rate

Emery County	10.5%
Utah	5.3%
U.S.	6.0%

Dec. 2002 Change from Previous Year

Job Growth

Emery County	-0.6%
Utah	0.2%
U.S.	-0.2%

4th Qtr 2002 Change from Previous Year

Construction Values

Emery County	-92.9%
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Sales

Emery County	8.4%
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Source: Utah Dept of Workforce Services,
Bureau of Labor Statistics,
Utah Tax Commission,
Bureau of Econ & Business Research.

**For more economic information about Emery County see:
<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Regions/County.asp>**

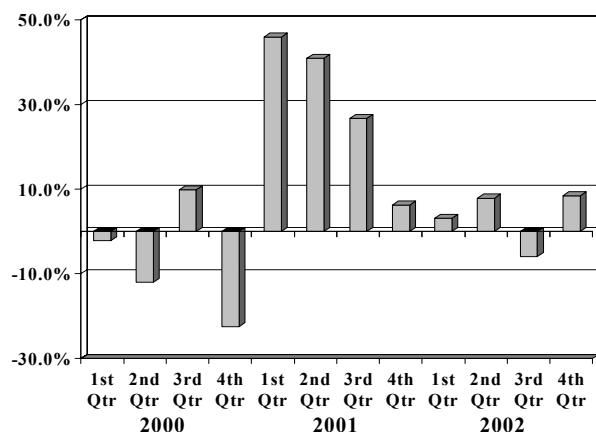
State of Utah

Utah Department of Workforce Services

140 East 300 South
PO Box 45249
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0249

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Year-Over Change in Duchesne County Gross Taxable Sales



Source: Utah Tax Commission.

The mission of the Utah Department of Workforce Services is to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive employment-related and supportive services responsive to the needs of employers, job seekers, and the community.



03-13EE-0603

Equal Opportunity Employment Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Call (801) 526-9240. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call the state relay at 1-800-346-4128

What's Up? 4

- The Utah Department of Transportation will add passing lanes between Huntington and Poison Springs on Route 10.
- The Emery Water Conservancy District received \$369,600 from the U.S. Department of Commerce to improve telecommunication networks.
- The Community Impact Board awarded the Castle Valley Special Services District \$1.8 million for infrastructure improvements in the county.

For more economic events, see:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/Regions/eastern/emery/emeryee.pdf>

